

ILNA Coin Digest

Fall 1993



— *THE VOICE OF ILNA* —

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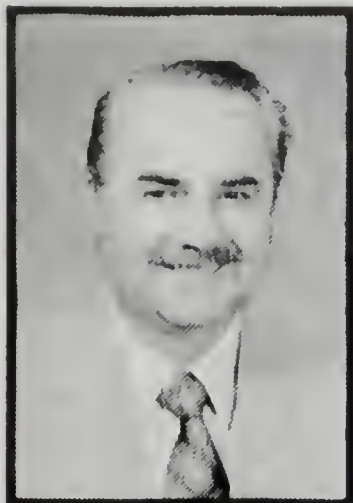
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President's Message



It's been just a year now since I accepted the gavel as president. It has been a year of personal rewards for me, but not without a few disappointments along the way.

We have just completed one of our best shows in years at Peoria on September 17-19th. Our board has been terrific to work with leading up to the show. A lot of hard work by the board and other members and holding to a tight budget, we were able to make a small profit for this year. The only

disappointment of the show was a smaller crowd than anticipated which held our door receipts down. Still, most dealers reported favorable sales.

We are now finalizing our fall show date for 1994 in Peoria as October 7th - 9th. So, mark your calendars. There will also possibly be a one day spring show in the Chicago suburbs. Details will be announced later.

One of my major disappointments is a rather large number of members who haven't paid their '93 dues. It is unfortunate that these members have decided not to support the association when we really need them.

There are two programs which I set out to accomplish this year and both are now completed. Our mailing list has been cleaned up with no reports of members not receiving their Digests for six months now. We also have an up-to-date, accurate list of members with their dues status. I think this is probably the reason so many will soon be removed from the roll.

The board has established several goals for '94 to further the numismatic hobby. We invite inquiries for speakers at your club shows, scout troops and at schools. We have several speakers who would be willing to give a presentation if requested. Sonny Henry held the Young Numismatist auction at our September show again with great success. "Money Talks" is available through the ANA for your local radio station. We presently have this on the air in Watseka and it is sponsored by an area bank. There is no charge to the local club at all. We must keep information flowing to the public to generate interest in the hobby.

It appears we will have a new coin club form in Peoria this winter. There are several individuals in the area interested in getting one started again. Contact me if you are interested in being a part of it.

Our next board meeting will be held at the Urbana Show on November 7th. I hope to see you there.

Numismatically yours,
Kermit W. Wasmer, President, ILNA

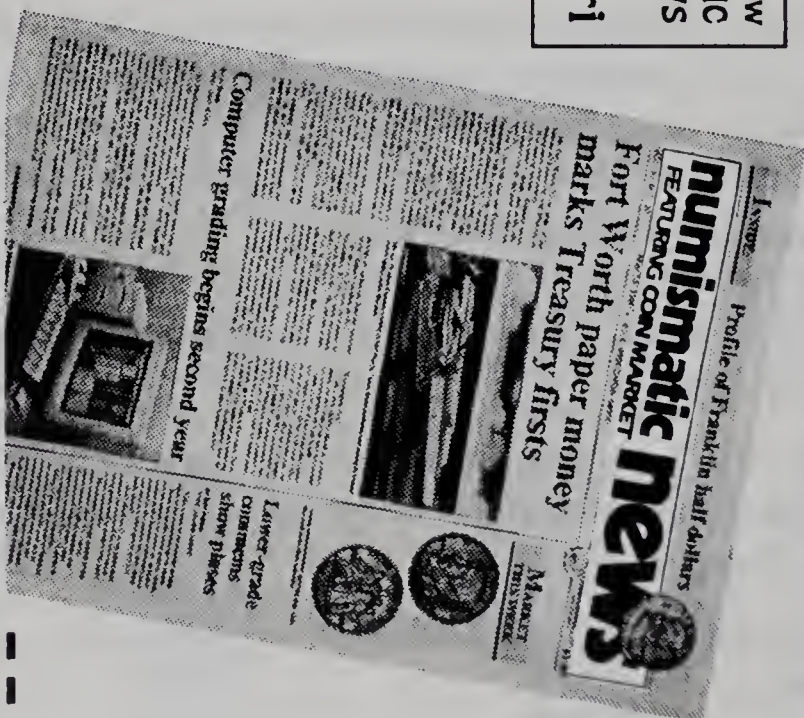
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ILNA Board Meeting Minutes

Sept. 19, 1993 Peoria, Illinois

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. by President Kermit Wasmer at the Hospitality Room of the Holiday Inn City Center, Peoria, IL in conjunction with the 1993 ILNA Convention and Show.

The following board members were present:

Kermit Wasmer

Glen De Valk

Jack Zillion

Sonny Henry

Erthel Rose

Joe Irmen

Jim Kaczor

Jim Erlenborn

Mark Wieclaw

The secretary's report from the previous meeting was read. Motion to accept as read was made by Rose, seconded by Erlenborn. Motion carried unanimously. The treasurer's report was distributed, read, and discussed. Motion to approve made by De Valk, seconded by Irmen. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Kaczor gave the board an update on his I & M Canal project. Chapters 1 and 2 are done (for the most part), and progress continues on Chapter 3. He stated that an update will be forthcoming at the next board meeting in Urbana.

Wasmer distributed lists of clubs and individuals who are in arrears regarding ILNA dues, and reported on his attempts to contact some of the delinquent clubs. Board members were asked to concentrate on people in their respective areas, and send in any changes in information as necessary to update lists.

Kaczor briefed the board on his "History of ILNA" project, stating that he should have everything completed by year's end.

Erlenborn and Zillion reiterated that their board member profiles would be turned in before the next Digest.

Henry presented the board with a list of 1994 suggested ILNA goals, as determined by the committee consisting of himself, Kaczor, and Wieclaw. Primary goals listed were to promote the hobby, particularly among the young, through seminars, release of coins through circulation, school programs, educational items such as the I & M Canal history project, and Boy and Girl Scout Troop programs.

Zillion told the board of his release of collectible coins into circulation in conjunction

(Continued on next page)

with the 1994 ILNA Convention. A complete circulated set of Jefferson Nickels, as well as some semi-key Lincoln Cents and other coins, were spent as change throughout the Peoria metro area.

NEW BUSINESS - 1993 Show Recaps:

Bourse: Irmen reported that, after surveying dealers at the show, Peoria was still preferred 2 to 1 over a possible Chicago show site. Most dealers said that they would surely return next year.

Registration: Zillion reported that registration and admissions went smoothly, thanks to hard work of volunteers Pete Porter, Ward Witter, Duane Serck, Larry Heren, and Tim Glaue. Special thanks to Heren for making registration and ILNA Table signage.

Exhibits: Erlenborn reported that the 5 exhibits were all of high quality, generating a favorable response from all who viewed them. Thanks given to Joe De Modica for adding lights to area.

Hospitality Room: Kaczor, as well as the entire board, thanked all the wives who helped serve food and maintain the hospitality room. Kaczor requested that someone else be put in charge of food acquisition for next year's show, although he added that he would still be happy to lend a hand where necessary.

Education/Seminars: Wieclaw noted that attendance was good but could be improved by introducing a wider variety of speakers. Plans were made to investigate possibilities for next show.

Auction: Sonny Henry reported that response to the YN auction was excellent. He stated that all young people present truly enjoyed themselves, and that after the auction, he received thanks from several parents, as did dealers who donated items. Thanks were given to Sonny for his hard work. The regular auction achieved good results, with a number of bidders in attendance. Discussion ensued regarding changing auction time for next year_ tabled until Nov. meeting. Kaczor volunteered his speaking/lecturing services to any and all board members for their local area clubs, free of charge. Henry noted that civic groups should be contacted as well.

ILNA Table: De Valk reported that for its 1st year, response was good. 13 new members and 3 Life members signed up at the show. Thanks were expressed to Glen as well as Erthel and Louise Rose, who manned the table throughout the day.

Show Publicity: Wasmer, Zillion, Henry, Irmen, Kaczor, and Erlenborn all recapped their individual efforts.

(Continued on next page)

A drawing was held among new members for ILNA Silver Rounds. Winners were Jack Huggins, Tim Glaue, James Stolt, Ray Schroeder, and John Griffiths.

Wasmer presented preliminary totals of proceeds obtained from dues, admissions, and raffle ticket sales.

Zillion stated that raffle would take place at 3 p.m. following board meeting and results would be forthcoming.

Discussion of dates for next year's show. Preliminary date Oct. 7-9, 1994 looks like the most favorable at present.

The next ILNA Board Meeting will be held Sunday, Nov. 7, in conjunction with the Urbana Coin Show.

Motion to adjourn made by Irmen, seconded by Erlenborn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Zillion, Secretary

The Association sponsored a raffle at the State Show this year. Listed below are the winners:

\$5 Liberty Gold	Mark Wieclaw, New Lenox, IL
\$2 1/2 Indian Gold	D. Kershner, Madison, WI
1878 CC Morgan Dollar	Roy Riblet, Paxton, IL
2 - 1 oz. Silver Rounds	Dave Deitchman, Marshfield, WI
2 - 1 oz. Silver Rounds	Louise Rose, Arrowsmith, IL
2 - 1 oz. Silver Rounds	Tom Mathews, Howell, MI
2 - 1 oz. Silver Rounds	Betty Wassel, Delavan, WI
1972 Proof Set	Jim Roberts, Monticello, IL
1973 Proof Set	Thomas Lane, Peoria, IL

A special thanks to Duane Serck of Mackinaw, IL for the donation to the Association of the 1878 CC Dollar. It would rival most in any collection.

AUCTION NEWS

The September 18th Coin Auction & Mail Bid conducted by Sonny Henry's Auction Service of Mendota, IL, was held at the Holiday Inn City Center in Peoria, IL, in conjunction with the ILNA Convention. It was very fast paced and exciting. There were over 75 bidders in attendance coming from Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Colorado and Iowa. Mail Bids were recieved from eight different states. The president and board members of ILNA were present as several other coin clubs were represented. There were \$5 bills given away during the auction. A Young Numismatist Auction was held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Lots of action and enthusiasm was generated. A Silver Dollar brought \$250.00. Several coins brought \$50.00 to \$150.00 in play money. The coins were donated by Bill Wagner, Jim Erlenborn, Kermit Wasmer, Joe Irmen, Clayton Hagemann, Harlan J. Berk, Ltd., L.G. Pearse Coins, and Sonny Henry's Auction Service. Coin Albums were given to Young Numismatists and several other money prizes were given away at the end of the auction, including \$50 toward someone's bill. There were 372 lots in the auction which started at 6:30 p.m. and was over at 8:30 p.m. The bidding was very competitive throughout the entire auction. Silver Dollars and Type, seemed to be the leaders in the auction.

Highlights form the auction are as follows: 1941-D Walking Liberty Half Dollar PCGS MS 65 - \$100.00; 1891 CC Morgan Dolar MS-63 - \$185.00; 1913-D Ty 1 Buffalo Nickel NGC MS 66 - \$270.00; 1913-D Ty 1 Buffalo Nickel NGC MS 65 - \$175.00; 1923-D Peace Dollar Gen BU toned - \$90.00; 1888 3 Cent Nickel Anacs Cache Proof 62 - \$200.00; 1854 W/Arr Half Dime NGC MS 62 - \$150.00; 1836 Bust Half Dollar AU 55 - \$105.00; 1872 Seated Dollar PCI Capsule XF 40 - \$185.00; 1950-D Franklin Half Dollar Roll Choice BU - \$395.00; Proof Quarter Set 1936-64 - \$875.00; 1895-S Morgan Dollar VF - \$140.00; A 7% Buyers Premium was added to all lots.

For more information or to be placed on the mailing list for future auctions, write to Sonny Henry's Auction Service, 1510 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342 or phone 815-539-6300.

NOTICE - LIFE MEMBERS

Any Life Member Club or Life Member Individuals can obtain a new engraved metal membership card by sending \$5.00 to Mark Wieclaw, ILNA Secretary - 175 Wood St., New Lenox, IL 60451. Please allow 30 days for delivery.

Young Numismatist Auction News

The Y.N. Auction was very successful. There were about 35 children in attendance from ages 5-17. We passed out \$200.00 credit to each bidder on an index card, and what they bid was deducted from their credit. The auction lasted from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Some of the Silver Dollars brought over \$150.00, and the Large Cents went over \$150.00. One child spent his \$200.00 on one Silver Dollar. Some of the Proof Sets and Mint Sets brought over \$75.00. Some of the Certified Coins brought over \$100.00. It was a very exciting auction, the kids had a great time, and the adults had a great time watching. When it was over, all the children came by and shook my hand and thanked us for the auction. They also thanked all the donors. Over all it was a huge success. Plans are being made for next year's event.

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Please join me in the following new members to ILNA. Names with an asterisk won a one ounce silver round in a drawing at Peoria.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| * 1. Jack Huggins - Belleville, IL | 8. Ted Galassi - Springfield, IL |
| 2. Ed Rulison - Watseka, IL | 9. B & R Coin Shop - Gilman, IL |
| * 3. Raymond Schroeder - Secor, IL | 10. Ben DuBois - Washington, IL |
| * 4. James Stolt - Minonk, IL | 11. Gary Kitls - Sparland, IL |
| * 5. John Griffiths - Milan, IL | 12. Steven Crews - Princeville, IL |
| * 6. Timothy Glave - Peoria, IL | 13. William Burbridge - Pontiac, IL |
| 7. Dale Klenke - Worden, IL | 14. Bill Whisler - Normal, IL |

In addition, Charles Meeker II of Springfield and B & R Coin Shop of Gilman are new life members. — Kermit Wasmer

Coinology

by Jimmy Kaczor

Reader - Student - Scholar - Numismatist

The dictionary says a numismatist is one who collects coins and related material, or one who studies numismatics. This is o.k. for the layman who does not collect or study coins.

What is a numismatist? How do you get to be a numismatist? Or, do you even want to be a numismatist? Perhaps you don't want to take the time or trouble to come to that high place in the numismatic world. There is no set standard, no diploma, no test. (But of the last two, I think there should be.) There is no set number of books to read, no number of coin meetings or conventions to attend. There simply are no standards to say, "I am a numismatist."

Two brief stories, at the Indiana State Show a few years back. I lectured on paper money of the New Orleans Canal and Banking Company, with about 30 slides. Once it was over, I was given a nice roll of applause. I asked if there were any question. No questions. As I was taking down my exhibit, a man who was in the audience come up to me and said, "I didn't know the government printed that kind of money." The man was wearing a circular button about three inches in diameter that said "I am a numismatist."

The phone rang and my wife answered it. She said, "A lady wants to talk to you." The voice said, "I am Mrs. so-and-so. My son is a numismatist.....You know, he collects coins." We talked for a bit. The following facts came out. He was eleven years old and had been collecting coins for three months. A numismatist!

So just what is a numismatist? Would you know one just by looking at him or her? You go to the zoo and see an elephant. You say, "Yes, that is an elephant." But when you go to a coin club meeting or a coin show, how do you recognize a numismatist? There will be no one there with a sign on his chest saying, "I am a numismatist", and if there is, beware.

On my business card, under my name, I have the word "Numismatist". No one ever told me I could use that word. No one gave me a diploma or a certificate the says I am a "numismatist". Then why do I have it there?In a moment.

To get to be a numismatist, be willing to learn, read to a great degree, give "coin talks" not only to your coin club, but clubs in other cities. Be that person who others come

(Continued on next page)

to for information. Learn to be able to identify a wide assortment of coins and paper money. Perhaps someone wants to know where to find information on Roman coins. Do you know what to tell them? What about Jackson tokens or German notgeld?

Make it known to your club that you want to help the club and its members to grow numismatically. To do this without being pretentious or overbearing is your job. We all have a bit of smugness in ourselves. Don't let it get in your way. Just be helpful. That's why I have "Numismatist" on my card.

Jimmy is available to give club presentations on many interesting topics. Please contact him by writing to Jimmy Kaczor, 1306 Hollycrest Dr., Champaign, IL 61821, for further information.

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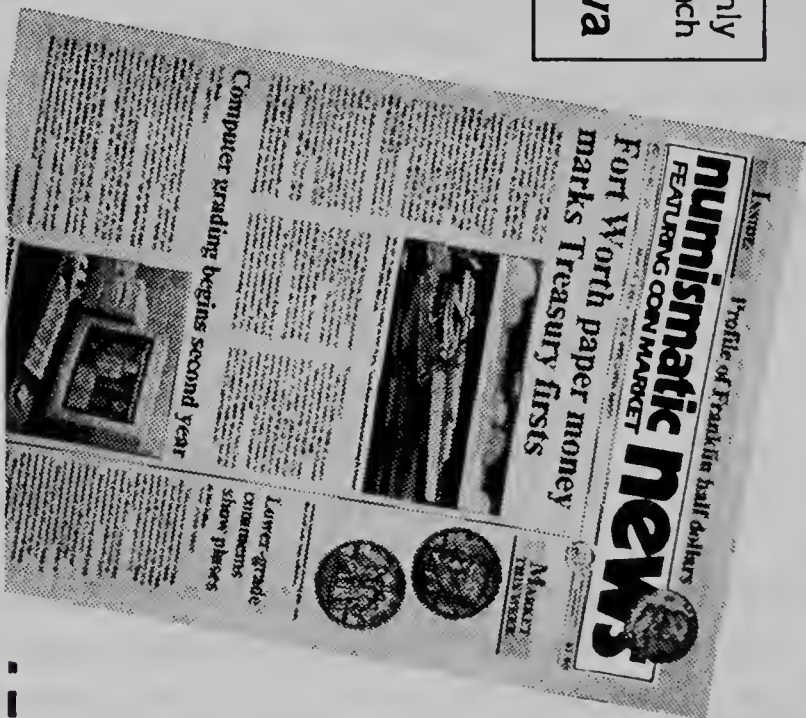
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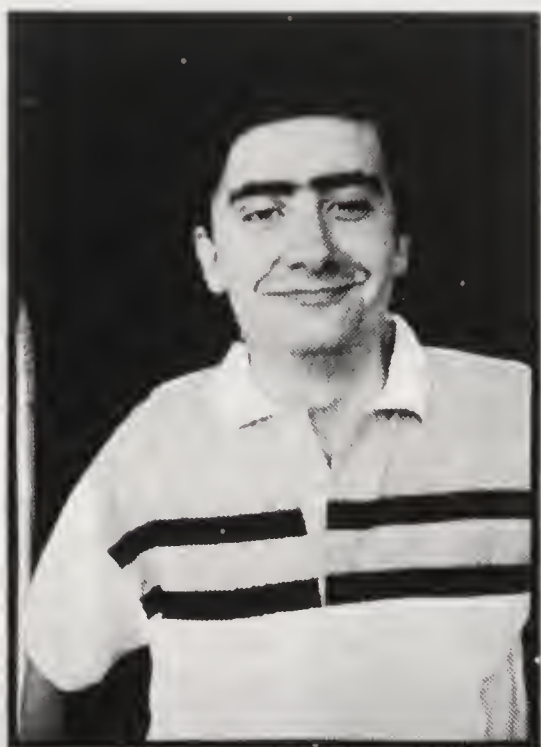
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ILNA Board Member Profile

Jack Zillion

My interest in numismatics began at the age of 7, when after obtaining my first Redbook I began pestering my parents, looking through their change for hidden treasures. My love for the hobby quickly grew, and I soon began haunting the local coin shop (a place I later ended up managing for 5 years).

I consider myself fortunate in that for the last 10-plus years, numismatics has been my profession as well as my hobby. In my capacity as a dealer, I endeavor to promote collecting as much as possible, particularly to the young, as they represent our numismatic future.

It is my fervent hope that in my capacity as ILNA Secretary, I can continue to make a positive contribution not only to ILNA itself but our hobby in general. With leadership from the Board of Directors and enthusiastic support from ILNA's membership, I feel confident that ILNA can continue to enjoy growth and success. I am truly honored to be a part what I feel is one of the nation's finest clubs.

Any comments, questions, or suggestions may be directed to me at Westlake Rare Coins, 2601 W. Lake Ave., Peoria, IL 61615. Phone (309) 686-2535.

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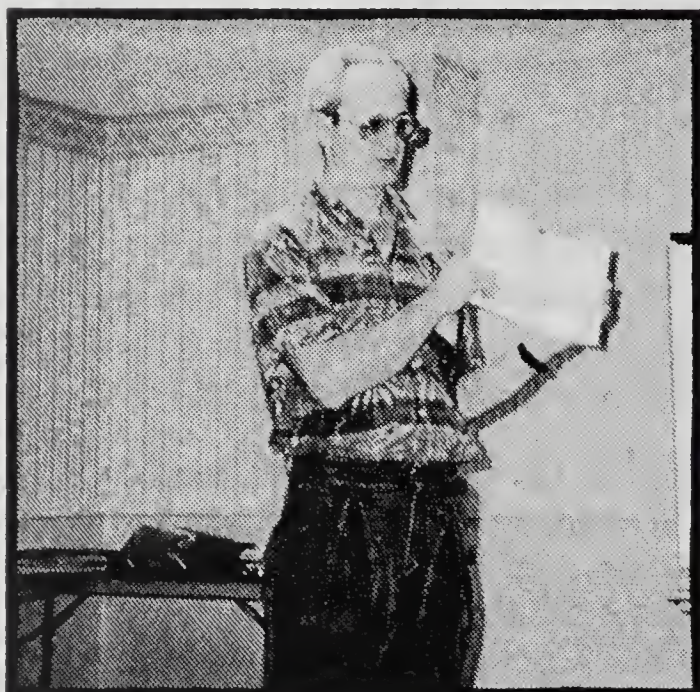
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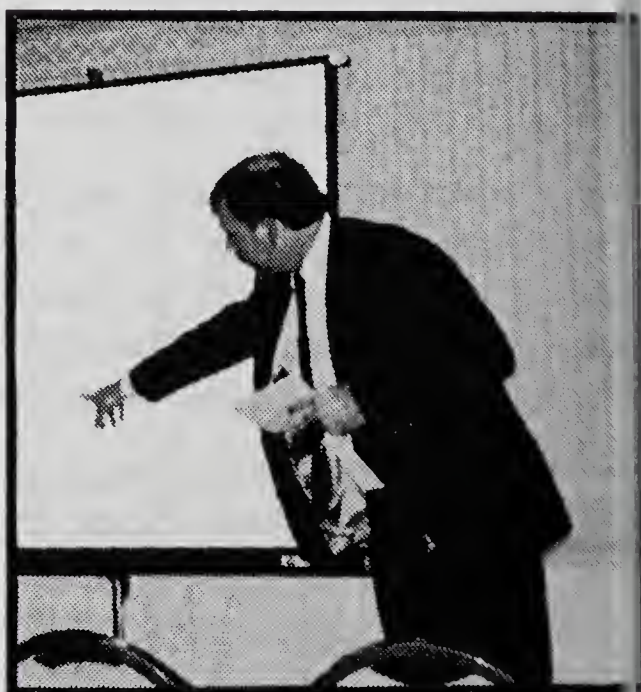
Pictures of the ILNA Annual Show and Convention Peoria, IL - Sept. 17-19th



*(Left) Ribbon cutting by Councilman Nat LeL...
Kermit Wasmer, Joe Irmen and other board
bers to open the show on Friday noon.*



*(Above) Brian Fanton of the ANA discusses mate-
rial available to the collector in his presentation of
"The art of Collecting" on Sunday.*



*(Above) Mark Wieclaw making a point on his
about territorial Philippine Coins on Saturday*

*(Right) Ladies of ILNA (Left to right) Penny
Kaczor, Ronda DeValk and Donna Wasmer pre-
paring food for the ILNA hospitality room on
Saturday.*





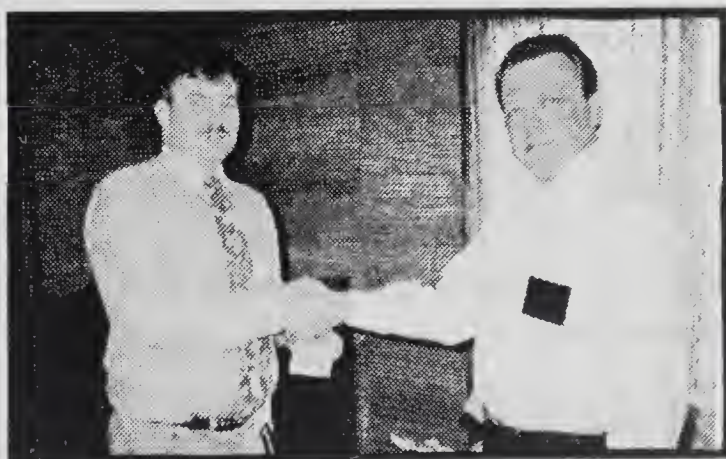
(Left) Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Hageman are pictured at their bourse table during the show. The show featured 57 tables of material for the collector.

(Right) Sonny Henry's Young Auction in progress on Saturday evening. The auction was well attended by young collectors of all ages up to twelve years old.



(Left) Jim Erlenborn on the right presenting Kevin Daley with the best of show award for his exhibit.

(Right) Mark Wieclaw receiving an exhibit award from Jim Erlenborn on Sunday.



(More pictures appear on page 22)

Feature Article

Civil War Tokens

by J. Zillion, Westlake Rare Coins

Of the events in our country's history, the Civil War will always be remembered for its tremendous impacts, both physical and emotional. It also had a significant economic impact on our nation, which led to many of the numismatic items we collect today. Of the many collectibles from the Civil War period, perhaps some of the most interesting are the Civil War Tokens.

Early in 1862, virtually all issuance of hard currency (specie) by U.S. banks was stopped. This, along with coin hoarding by the general public, led to a tremendous coin shortage. For a time, merchants reverted to the age-old "barter" system to complete business transactions, giving change in extra goods or services. To resolve this situation, many merchants, along with other private coiners, began to create their own coin-shaped tokens to replace regular currency.

There were two basic types of Civil War Tokens: "patriotic" and "storecard". The "patriotic" types were mainly produced in and around New York, and bore predominantly patriotic slogans and vignettes on both sides. Many of these were modeled after the Indian Cent, which was the current coin at that time. The "storecard" or "tradesmen's card" tokens were more widely issued. They generally bore the merchant's advertisement on one side, with some type of patriotic design or slogan on the other. These were issued in 23 states and nearly 300 towns, mainly in the North with a few issues from the border states.

Civil War Tokens were generally made in the traditional copper composition, although some were issued in other metals such as brass, nickel, white metal, lead, zinc, and silver. Some were overstruck on U.S. cents and dimes, and are actively sought by collectors. There were reportedly even a couple of gold issues which, if found, would be exceedingly valuable.

Although having proven themselves to be a great aid in the relief of the coin shortage, as well as a good income producer for their issuers (a one-cent token cost about 1/4 cent to make), Civil War Tokens inevitably attracted the attention of the U.S. Government. After complaints about non-redemption of tokens by merchants and other issuers, the Civil War Token era came to an end in 1864 with the passage of an act forbidding any further private issuance of any form of currency.

A recent resurgence of interest has been shown in Civil War Tokens, due mainly to their brief period of issue and the great number of varieties from which to choose. These remembrances of a fascination historical era are certainly worthy additions to any collection.

This is the fourth of a regular series of articles on paper money and coins throughout the history of our country. We hope you will find it both interesting and informative.

ILNA Board Member Profile

Joe Demodica

I am ILNA's Convention Coordinator and have been since 1990. I have also been an ILNA Board Member since 1989 and I believe the youngest ever to serve. I am ILNA's Educational Chairman and have been since 1992.

My occupation is material analyst at Motorola Inc. (Pan American Cellular Subscriber Group). I served as Assistant Facility and Bourse Chairman for the 100th Anniversary ANA Convention in Chicago in 1991. I am the Bourse Chairman of the N.O.I.S.E. (Numis-matic Of Illinois Sales & Exchange) Convention held every 3rd Sunday in Westmont, Illinois, and have been involved since its inception in 1978.

I collect a little of everything but primarily Morgan and Bust Silver Dollars. I've been coin collecting since I was seven years old. My uncle got me interested by giving me coins for my birthdays. I've recently found an interest in elongated coinage. I am currently working on a design for a double sided elongated coin commemorating N.O.I.S.E.

Numismatics is my hobby and I simply enjoy collecting. Knowledge is the key and the quest for knowledge is endless, but always intriguing and gratifying. To learn about numismatics is to learn about our history.

I have made acquaintances with a great many people through numismatics and have learned much. Serving with my fellow ILNA Board Members has been a meaningful experience and the future holds great things.

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The Lincoln Challenge

by Howard W. Ribbentrop

This is Part II of an article on Exonumia Collecting.

There is so much material on Abraham Lincoln that there is no way you could ever know it all. Aside from the commemorative and regular issued medals and tokens, the face of Lincoln has been used on thousands of advertising items because the issuer/advertiser wanted to be identified as honest. The "Honest Abe" image. It is largely on the basis of this image that we interpret the advertiser or merchant. (Or at least they hope we do!)

The United States Mint has issued several nice Lincoln medals. But the great, great majority has been issued by private mints, die sinkers, and medalists like Thomas Elder, Whitehead & Hoag, William H. Key, Greenduck, Charles Warner, Joseph Merriam, Bastian Brothers, S.D. Childs, Medallie Art, Lincoln Mint, and Franklin Mint just to name a small sampling of token and medal manufacturers. It is their product which portrays the free expression of the artist, unrestricted by public acceptance (coins).

The Robert P. King Catalog is the foremost book on Abraham Lincoln. This is the only fly in the ointment. It contains a wealth of information on the issues, the artists, die sinkers, medallists, etc. Unfortunately it has been out of print for many years. King wrote the catalog in a series of inserts and supplements in *The Numismatist* back in 1924 through 1933. Paul Ginther and Nathan Eglit added another supplement in 1966 and the Token and Medal Society reprinted the catalog in whole. A well used copy of the book can cost \$50.00 and up depending on condition. That's if you can find one. The other way you can attain a copy is to borrow the catalog from the ANA, or whoever else has one, and run it off on a copier, put it in a loose leaf binder and you have the King Catalog. (That's how I got mine!) It is sorely in need of updating but it's the best thing around.

The King Catalog is not a requirement for collecting Lincoln material and it certainly should not be a deterrent. There is plenty of other material available to educate the Lincoln collector. Auction catalogs from dealers who specialize in exonumia and a splendid source of information. Any catalogs on medals and tokens issued after 1860 will contain some issues of Abraham Lincoln. And that even includes issues from World's Fair.

Your local coin shop is not likely to carry medals or tokens and if they have any, they're

(Continued on next page)

probably in the "junk box". It's best to remember the old saying when going into the junk box: "One man's trash is another man's treasure". I have found some exquisite Lincoln pieces in junk boxes because the dealers wanted no part of medals. One thing to remember is that the collector of exnumia does not concern himself with condition. Unlike looking at coins, where you can get the piece in several different condition, with medals and tokens, it's get it while you can. You may not see another for a very long time. You can always update if a better one comes along. You won't have that much money into it anyway.

I have found a great deal of integrity in mail order dealers and mail bid auctions specializing in the area. Prices are not bound by market conditions. (Exonumists never say the "I" word.) Information and grading is, for the most part, accurate. I have purchased a great deal through the mail and only returned one piece in over ten years. Mail bid auctions are pure fun. Bid what you can "afford" on as many pieces as you would like. There's a good chance you'll be successful on some bids.

The best source of all is the Collectibles Show. Here is the show where all of the dealers present will have something you will want. For the "first timer", you will see more medals and tokens than you thought existed. Plus you get a chance to talk to some of the dealer/authors who are more than happy to pass along information. The "junk boxes" are outstanding and the chances of finding Lincoln material are great. This show is like Christmas time. A surprise at every table.

Don't limit yourself in collecting "Ole Abe". There are a lot of "cheapies" out there such as those from Shell's "Mr. President" game. These and other give-aways and promotional pieces cost 25 cents and less. There were hundreds of Lincoln issues in 1909, the Centennial of his birth. Most are very low priced for their condition and mintages. Other categories include Civil War Tokens, Mortuary Medals, G.A.R. Medals, Politicals, 1959 Sesquicentennial Issues, many surprisingly low priced. Even many large medals up to three inches in diameter can be had for \$10.00 and under.

A variety of Decorations and Awards with their medallion portraits and colorful ribbons adds plenty to any showing. Once the collection takes form, you'll find you have some material with much lower mintages than the rarest Lincoln cent. All sizes and many different shapes. A collection that is of museum quality. A collection that has a story to tell. A collection that portrays one of our greatest presidents. A collection that is conditionally great and affordable. Best of all, a collection that is unique. No one has ever put together what you have. Nor will they ever duplicate it. No one is ever going to ask you if it is "complete". If they do, you can tell them it will be complete when you want it to be.

(Continued on next page)

The Lincoln Challenge (cont.)

Collecting Lincoln exnumia will make you an amateur historian on the subject. You will learn about more artists, die makers, historical events, and subject matter than the coin collector. It's all there for you to absorb and enjoy. It's pure Americana.

I'm not saying that everyone who reads this article should stop their collecting interests and run out to buy Lincoln material. What I am laying before you is a whole new area of enjoyment if you've grown stale on coin collecting. There are no pieces in plastic encasements, no Green Sheets (or whatever color they are), and you never hear the "I" word. You'll meet a different breed of collector and dealer. People not overwhelmed by condition, rarity, markets, and outlandish prices.

Medals and tokens are also a much better way of starting junior collectors in numismatics. Why have the juniors gone to collecting baseball cards? Let's face it! The coin board can get boring real fast and most juniors cannot afford to fill 75% of the holes. On the other hand, collecting Lincoln exnumia extends a wide variety of options to the junior to keep him hunting for more and more.

The "Lincoln Challenge" really isn't much of a challenge at all. But it is an outstanding way to express yourself as a collector. Abraham Lincoln himself accepted many challenges. No other President of the United States endured the turmoil of a Civil War. He deserves to be commemorated by collectors and collections. Happy Collecting!

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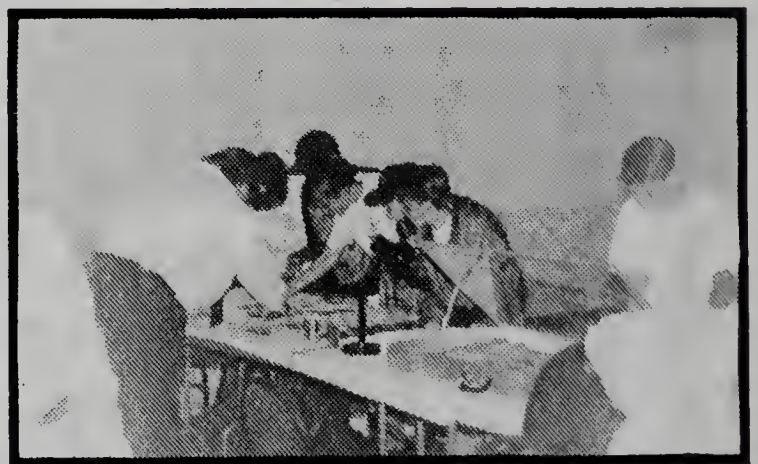
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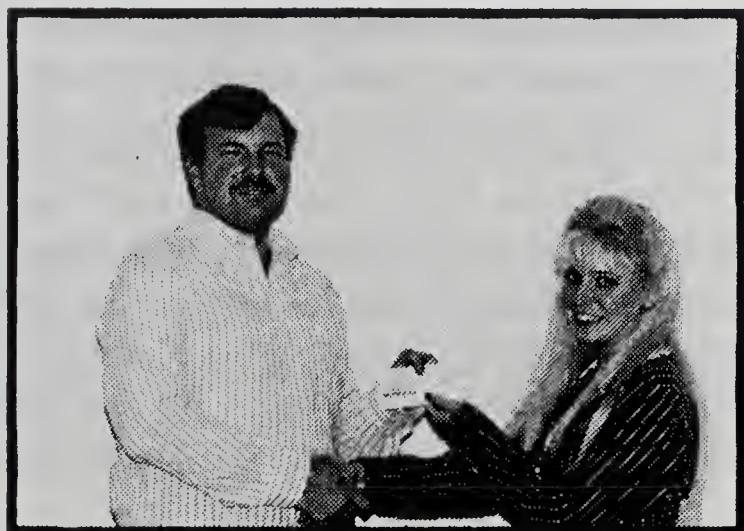
(Left) Jimmy Kaczor emphasizing a point on his talk on Notgeld Notes on Saturday.



(Right) Y.N. Auction - Young bidders checking material before the auction started.

— REMEMBER —
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Heather McCoy is Recipient of Scholarship



Mark Wieclaw of the Will County Coin Club presents Heather McCoy with a \$100 scholarship check.

Heather McCoy of Aurora and a junior member of ILNA and the Will County Coin Club was recently awarded a college scholarship by the WCCC.

Heather states that after considering several colleges, she will enroll at the College of DuPage to study pre-medicine. Heather has been active in many high school activities as well as serving as secretary of the WCCC. She has been an active member of the local club for five years. She enjoys collecting half-dimes, however, Morgan dollars also interest her.

On this day in history.....

Nov. 1, 1965....Clad quarters released to banks to ease coin shortage.

Nov. 6, 1792....George Washington declares coin shortage at an end with striking of first half dimes.

Nov. 6, 1966....First \$1 Federal Reserve Note issue delivered.

Dec. 1, 1794....First delivery of U.S. half dollars.

Dec. 18, 1971..President Nixon announces official U.S. gold price increase to \$38 per ounce.

Dec. 24, 1794..First coinage of nickels at San Francisco.

Dec. 31, 1970..Coinage law authorizes Eisenhower dollar.

MAKING SENSE

by John D. Wright, NLG

Remember the classic puzzle “what 21 coins make a dollar” (using today’s coinage)? There are five answers to that one — work it out sometime. Well, a nastier variation is “what 601,676 coins make \$159,806.95”. One of the MANY answers to that one is “the complete U.S. coinage of 1796”.

This was the year that Thomas Jefferson lost the presidential election to John Adams for successor to George Washington. It was the year that Tennessee became the 16th state. It was the year that France was battling MASSIVE inflation in the aftermath of the French revolution (40x price-increases in only six years). And it was the first year that the young U.S. mint in Philadelphia made all ten denominations of coins that had been legislated in 1792.

This is a VERY expensive year for a denomination set of U.S. coins (ten coins) in any grade, ranging from \$35,000 in Good to maybe 20 times that in Mint State. For most of us, the only U.S. coin of 1796 we could ever hope to own is the cent, which can still be had in Good for less than a C-note. That’s not surprising, since almost five in every six coins we made that year were cents.

Compared to other denominations of the year, 1796 cents are easy. But compared to nearby years of cents, this is a tough one. There are two basic types for the year. The Liberty Cap type (1793-1796) is supposedly scarcer by mintage figures than the Draped Bust type (1796-1807), but that has not been my experience at over 30 years of coin shows. You see, I collect these puppies by die variety and make a point of CAREFULLY looking over every 1796 cent I can. And I see about two Caps for every Bust.

A “die variety” is all coins struck from a given pair of dies. Since U.S. coinage dies in 1796 were hand-prepared, no two are identical. There are 25 known obverse dies and 27 known reverse dies for 1796 cents, paired in 45 combinations. Now THAT’s getting down to the nitpicking stage, isn’t it! But you can find excuses to go even DEEPER!! As a coinage die is used, it wears down, mushes out, clangs against its mate, cracks, and may even break apart. These differences are called “die states”, and offer an excellent excuse to gather two, four, or more examples of the same die variety.

A few of us actually do try to collect fifty or more different cents of 1796. But there

(Continued on next page.)

aren't many of us who try to go that deep. Most elect to ...

- (A) Skip 1796 — it's a tough year and I can cover the type with a 1795 and a 1798
- (B) Get one for the year-set
- (C) Get a pair for the major types
- (D) Get one of each of the five "Red Book" listings

That's good for us die-hards because it makes far fewer competitors for the really rare varieties. And there are about a dozen of those, ranging from a dozen examples each down to the rarest with two known. Both of these have changed owners in the last five years. One now lives in Louisville, and the other in Chicago.

Choice 1796 cents come very infrequently. I started to say "are far between", but that's not so. Most are clustered with lovely siblings in a very few collections. The one notable exception is the "Nichols Find".

In 1797 Benjamin Goodhue, a member of the Continental Congress, made an official visit to the U.S. mint. He brought home with him a "box of new cents". Reports vary at either 1,000 or 5,000 coins. Remember from the last issue that these things are 2.4 pounds per dollar, so we're talking either 24 pounds or 120 pounds of large cents. I lean strongly toward the former. These stayed in the family until after the civil war, when his granddaughter dispersed them. Her married name was "Nichols", from whence came the name of this hoard.

Coins from the Nichols Find are mostly from two varieties of 1797 and one of 1796, with all but a few hundred pieces being 1797's. Thanks to this hoard, a Mint State 1796 Bust cent (S-119) can be had today for less than the price of a Good 1796 half dollar. An interesting sidelight is that the hoard-variety 1796 cent is scarcer worn than it is new. But the worn ones still cost a BUNCH less than the new ones.

John D. Wright is a leader of Early American Coppers, a contributing editor of "Penny-Wise", and the author of "The CENT Book". He has collected U.S. large cents for forty years.

NOTICE:

Future mailing policy will be to send only one ILNA DIGEST to each address except for clubs. Individual digests will be mailed if requested in writing to the ILNA mailing address found on page 2. Thank you for saving the expense of multiple mailings.

Club Profiles

Central Illinois Numismatic Association

The Springfield club was founded in 1948 by Col. James Curtis. It currently has 75 members with approximately 30 attending meetings. The club meets at Security Federal in Springfield on the second Thursday of each month except August and December.

The club features guest speakers when available and has a membership drawing. Every meeting has a 60 to 100 lot auction after serving refreshments. The club features several shows a year. If interested in further information about the club contact:

Jay Peniwell
308 N. Park Ave., Apt. A
Springfield, IL 62702
Ph. 217-793-0919.

The club wishes to extend a welcome to their club meetings to anyone interested in numismatics.

Gibson City Coin Club

The Gibson City Coin Club was founded in 1964. The present number of members is nine with four or five attending meetings. The club meets at the Round Table Cafe in Gibson City at 7:30 p.m. The club serves refreshments and has a speaker at their meetings. They host an annual show at Gibson City in February each year. For more information contact:

Roy Riblet
422 E. Chestnut St.
Paxton, IL 60957.

Gibson City is probably the smallest club that belongs to ILNA. Guests are always welcome at their meetings.

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Upcoming Coin Shows

- Oct. 24, 1993 (Sun.) Elgin Coin Club 31st Annual Show. Free Admission, Door Prizes, Coin Grading & Appraisal, YN Auction, Sonny Henry Auction, Educational programs presented. *Location:* Elgin Ramada Inn, 500 W. River Road, Rte. 31 & 190. *Contact:* Elgin Coin Club, PO Box 561, South Elgin, IL 90177
- Oct. 24, 1993 (Sun.) Hoopeston Coin Club Annual Show. *Location:* Hoopeston American Legion Post, Northeast corner of E. Penn & S. 4th Sts. *Table Fee:* \$12.50. *Contact:* Joe Wagoner, 322 W. Orangest, Hoopeston, IL 60942. Ph. 217-283-6733
- Nov. 7, 1993 (Sun.) Champaign-Urbana Coin Club Annual Show. *Location:* Civic Center, 108 E. Water St. *Table fee:* \$22.50. *Contact:* Keith LeSaure, 1909 Moraine Dr., Champaign, IL 61821. Ph. 217-356-8577
- Nov. 21, 1993 (Sun.) Central Illinois Numismatic Association Fall Show. *Location:* Best Western Springfield East, Stevenson Dr. & Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL. Admission: \$.50, Under 16 - Free. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. *Contact:* Jon Potts. Ph. 217-483-4066
- Nov. 28, 1993 (Sun.) Mattoon Coin Club Fall Show. *Location:* Holiday Inn, Rt. 16, Mattoon, IL. *Table fee:* \$25. *Contact:* M. D. Shepherd, PO Box 143, Mattoon, IL 61938.
- Nov. 28, 1993 (Sun.) Oak Forest Coin & Collectible Club Show. Admission: Adult \$2.00, 15 & under - Free. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. *Location:* Alsip Holiday Inn, 5000 W. 127th St. *Contact:* Bill Baker, PO Box 15, Lansing, IL 60438 or Howard Ribbentrop, 708-687-2919
- Feb. 5 & 6, 1994
(Sat.-Sun.) Dupo Coin Club's 37th Annual Show. *Location:* Ramada Inn, Fairview Heights, IL. *Table fee:* \$75. *Contact:* Dupo Coin Club, PO Box 3153, Fairview Heights, IL 62208. Ph. 618-632-3331 - Harry Niccum.

(Continued on next page)

- Mar. 6, 1994 (Sun.) Wat-cha-kee Coin Club Annual Show. *Location:* American Legion Post 23, 115 E. Oak, Watseka, IL. Free Admission. *Table fee:* \$15. *Contact:* Ed Bush, 815-432-3232
- Mar. 13, 1994 (Sun.) Will County Coin Club Show. *Location:* Holiday Inn, Larkin Ave. & I-80, Joliet, IL. Free admission. *Table fee:* \$30. *Contact:* Clayton Hageman, 1414 Eldamain Rd., Plano, IL 60545. Ph. 708-552-3491
- Apr. 2, 1994 (Sat.) Corn Belt Coin Club Spring Show. Free admission. *Location:* Elk's Lodge, corner of Madison & Washington, Bloomington, IL. *Table fee:* \$15. *Contact:* Bill Whisler, 409 Belview Ave., Normal, IL 61761. Ph. 309-452-6870
- Oct. 7-9, 1994
(Fri. - Sun.) Illinois Numismatic Association Coin Show. *Location:* Holiday Inn City Center, 500 Hamilton Blvd., Peoria, IL. *Contact:* Joseph DeModica, 5N 105 Rt. 53, Itasca, IL 60143. Ph. 708-250-7474

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Board Member	Nov. 1992	Feb. 1993	July 1993	Sept. 1993
Joe DeModica	P	A	P	A
Glen DeValk	P	P	P	P
James Erlenborn	A	P	P	P
Darrell Geiger	A	P	A	A
Sonny Henry	P	P	P	P
Joe Irmen	P	A	P	P
L. Jim Kazcor	P	P	P	P
Erthel Rose	P	P	P	P
Joe Wagoner	P	P	A	A
Kermit Wasmer	P	P	P	P
Mark Wieclaw	P	A	P	P
Dennis Witter	P	P	P	P
Jack Zillion	-New Board Member-		P	P

Dear ILNA Member -

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Local Clubs Meeting Information

Champaign - Urbana Coin Club. *Meetings:* First Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Urbana Civic Center. *Information:* L. J. Kaczor, 1306 Hollycrest Dr., Champaign, IL 61821, or call 217-356-9500.

Corn Belt Coin Club. *Meetings:* First Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the First of America, East College Office, Bloomington, IL. *Information:* Phone Bill Whisler at 217-452-6870.

Fairfield Coin Club. *Meetings:* Second Sunday of each month, 1:30 p.m. at Frontier College, Routes 15 & 45 West, Fairfield, IL. *Information:* Howard Clemmons, 805 Epworth St., Fairfield, IL 62837.

Will County Coin Club. *Meetings:* First Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Harwood Post of the American Legion, I-80 Frontage Rd. off South Larkin Ave. *Information:* Mark Wieclaw, 175 W. Wood St., New Lenox, IL 60451 or phone 815-485-4137.

Kankakee Coin, Stamp and Card Club. *Meetings:* Second Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Bird Park Fieldhouse, Bird Park, Court & Wall Street on Rt. 17 West. *Information:* Kankakee Coin Club, P.O. Box 150, Bradley, IL 60915.

Oak Forest Coin Club. *Meetings:* First Friday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Bremen Township Hall, 15350 Oak Park Ave., Oak Park, IL.

Rantoul Coin Club. *Meetings:* Second Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Temporarily at the American Lutheran Church, 500 Church Drive, Rantoul, IL.

Tazwell Numismatic Society. *Meetings:* First Wednesday of each month at the Methodist Church, Morton, IL. *Information:* Roger Hirstein, 1043 E. Jefferson, Morton, IL 61550.

Wat-cha-kee Coin Club. *Meetings:* Every fourth Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church, 546 N. 6th St., Watseka, IL. *Information:* Phone Kermit Wasmer at 815-432-4636.

Lake County Coin Club. *Meetings:* First Tuesday of each month, 8:00 p.m. at the Conference room of the Sunset Bowl in Waukegan. *Information:* Lake County Coin Club, 2210 Crescent Ave., Waukegan, IL 60085.

If you would like your meeting time and place listed in future issues contact: ILNA, 325 Coney Ave., Watseka, IL 60970.

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